



Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea

Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet

Jan Treesh to Demonstrate Reed Basketry at Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea

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BEREA, Ky. – On Saturday, Aug. 23, Jan Treesh, of Lexington, will demonstrate her reed basketry techniques from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea.

Treesh made her first two baskets in 1985 under the guidance of a friend. She then taught herself by looking at pattern books and studying actual baskets. She has developed many designs of her own and in 1990 began attending Indiana Basket-maker Association annual conferences to take workshops.

Treesh uses both flat and round reeds and traditional weaving techniques, along with commercial dyes when designing her functional and decorative baskets. Among her basket forms is the traditional round-bottom basket. Round-bottom baskets are formed by arranging reeds in a “spoke” fashion, and then twining the walls with round reeds. Treesh also makes baskets that start from a square or rectangular grid that is then shaped and woven upwards. Many of her baskets have a specific function in the kitchen or home, and she finishes all her baskets with a Danish oil stain to preserve their beauty. Each of her baskets is signed and dated.

Baskets by Treesh are regularly available at the center, located just off Interstate 75 at Berea, Exit 77. The center’s exhibits, shopping and travel information areas are open daily, year-round, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., with the cafe open from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Admission is free.

The center currently features works by more than 700 artisans from more than 100 counties across the Commonwealth. A gallery exhibit, “Repurposed & Recycled: Works by Kentucky Artisans,” is on display through Sept. 6; and in the lobby, “Kentucky Bourbon: Distillation and Inspiration,” is on display through Nov. 16. For information about the center’s events call 859-985-5448, visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/kentucky.artisan.center, or go to the center’s website at www.kentuckyartisancenter.ky.gov.

The Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea is an agency in the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.



Photos, left to right: Jan Treesh shows visitors how she makes her egg basket; a two-handled market basket by Treesh, Treesh uses reed to form the starting rib structure for a new round-bottom basket